

Amdt. dated January 5, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 6, 2004

Serial No. 09/747,515  
Docket No. STL000011US2  
Firm No. 0057.0021

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

55. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to a computer, comprising:  
receiving an indication of a number of features of said subject multi-dimensional database to be identified and an indication of a feature identification technique;  
performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features using the indicated feature identification technique; and  
creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein creating the index comprises creating a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein receiving the number of features to be identified comprises receiving a parameter value.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein performing feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

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60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein creating the index comprises storing deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

61. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for accessing a subject multi-dimensional database, comprising:

a computer having a data store coupled thereto, wherein the data store stores a subject multi-dimensional database; and,

one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified and an indication of a feature identification technique, performing feature identification on the multi-dimensional database to identify the indicated number of features using the indicated feature identification technique, and creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

62. (Original) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the index comprises a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

63. (Original) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

64. (Original) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

65. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 64, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

66. (Original) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

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Firm No. 0057.0021

67. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to access a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to the computer, comprising:

receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified in said multi-dimensional database and an indication of a feature identification technique;

performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features using the indicated feature identification technique; and

creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

68. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the index comprises a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

69. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

70. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

71. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 70, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

72. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

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73. (Previously Presented) A method of accessing a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to a computer, comprising:  
receiving an indication of a number of features of said subject multi-dimensional database to be identified;  
performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features; and  
creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features, wherein the index comprises a second multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.
74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein receiving the number of features to be identified comprises receiving a parameter value.
75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein performing feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.
76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.
77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein creating the index comprises storing deviation values for each of the identified number of features.
78. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accessing a subject multi-dimensional database, comprising:  
a computer having a data store coupled thereto, wherein the data store stores a subject multi-dimensional database; and,  
one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified, performing feature identification on the

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Docket No. STL000011US2  
Firm No. 0057.0021

multi-dimensional database to identify the indicated number of features, and creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features, wherein the index comprises a second multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

79. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

80. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

81. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

82. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

83. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to access a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to the computer, comprising:

receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified in said multi-dimensional database;

performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features; and

creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features, wherein the index comprises a second multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

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Serial No. 09/747,515  
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84. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 83, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

85. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 83, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

86. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 85, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

87. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 83, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.